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Rocky Flats Office

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ROCKY FLATS PLANT CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

ERD:SRG:3049

Operable Unit 2 Bedrock Work Plan

J. M. Kersh, Associate General Manager Environmental Restoration and Waste Management EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

In your February 28, 1992 memorandum, you requested DOE to ask EPA and CDH to defer the Operable Unit 2 (903 Pad, Mound, Trenches) Phase II RFI/RI Bedrock field work until a later date based on the budget shortfall for FY92 and the desire to wait for the results of the alluvial field work. Other reasons given are indications from soil data indicating that migration of contaminants to the bedrock is unlikely and the laterally extensive claystone sequence beneath the alluvium.

As discussed with your staff, the most prudent approach to the Bedrock Work Plan question is to assess the extent of contamination through the evaluation of existing data and verification sampling. Incorporation of the new DOE "Streamlined Approach" would also be advantageous.

To address the question of bedrock contamination, we should: (1) re-sample VOCs (and get quick turnaround from on-site laboratories) in the OU2 1989 seismic confirmation wells; and (2) drill additional bedrock wells using "contingency" alluvial wells footage while drill rigs are mobilized in OU2. This information will help provide the basis for determining need for a bedrock program. Perhaps proposed bedrock borehole/well cluster number 2 and 6 (Figure 8-1 of the Bedrock Work Plan) would be good locations for additional wells. Well cluster 2 is located in the Mound area where VOC contamination has tentatively been detected in Sandstone #3 and #4. Well cluster 6 is the area where the "A" Sandstone is in physical contact with the "B" Sandstone and would be a most likely pathway. However, you should evaluate the location(s) based on current site information available to you from historical and the Phase II remedial investigation. We will also need to meet with EPA and CDH in the near term to reach agreement with this approach.

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In preparing to re-evaluate a new approach to the Bedrock Work Plan, please review the attached information of the new DOE "Streamlined Approach" that incorporates a combination of the Data Quality Objectives/Observational Approach methods. Also, please contact Richard Dailey, DOE-HQ, EH-25, (202-586-7117), to arrange for presentations of the DOE "Streamlined Approach" for Rocky Flats' DOE, EG&G, and subcontractor staff. EPA and CDH should also be invited to attend the presentations in order to gain their support of this new approach. Please coordinate the time of the presentations with Scott Grace at extension 7199.

In summary, sample the 1989 seismic wells and evaluate location(s) for wells in the bedrock to confirm or deny occurrence of contaminants in the bedrock in preparation for discussions with EPA and CDH on deferring the Bedrock Work Plan field work. Future approaches to characterization should incorporate the new DOE "Streamlined Approach." The above has already been discussed in detail on March 17, 1992 with Eric Dille of your staff.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Schassburger at 4888 or Scott Grace at 7199.

James K. Hartman

Acting Assistant Manager

for Environmental Management

Attachment

cc w/Attachment:

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